

©

Barl. 248
That which has been, may be :

O R, T H E *Cover*

Dutch Remonstrance

Concerning the late

PROCEEDINGS and PRACTICES

I N

H O L L A N D.

Fully proving, That the
FRENCH, and the DUTCH Governors,
have been only playing their *Old Tricks*
over again.

Drawn up by a Person of *Eminency*, and printed
at the *Hague*.

Translated out of the *Low Dutch*.

Being very necessary for the Perusal of the Peo-
ple in both ENGLAND and HOLLAND at these
present Times.

*Quis furor, ô cives ! quæ tanta licentia ferri,
Gentibus invisâ Latium præbere cruorem ?* LUC.

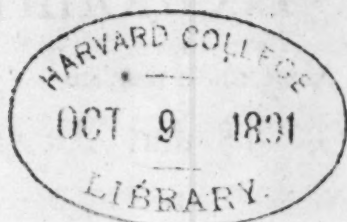
What Fury, O Countrymen ! what great Unruliness
prompt you, to spill, before your most *inveterate Ene-*
mies, the Blood of BATAVIANS ?

L O N D O N :

Printed for W. OWEN, at *Homer's Head*, near *Temple-*
Bar, *Fleet-Street*. M DCCXLVIII.

(Price Six-Pence.)

* Carl. 248



Carlyle bequest



T H E
P R E F A C E.

I CAN think of nothing better to introduce this well-adapted Piece to the late and present violent Commotions among the People in Holland, than a Translation of that excellent Recapitulation of the Rise and Fall of the once great Roman State, given us by Florus, Book III. C. 12.

“ This is the third foreign Age of the Roman People, in which, boldly adventuring from Italy, they spread War throughout the World. The first hundred Years of which Time were sacred, religious, and, as we have said, (Book II. C. 19.) Golden Days; without Villainy, without Wickedness, whilst hitherto the sincere and inoffensive Integrity

of its honest Founders, and the imminent Fear of perjured Enemies preserved their antient Discipline. The last hundred Years, which we account from the Ruin of Carthage, Corinth and Numantia, and from the Asiatick Kingdom of King Attalus, given to Cæsar and Pompey; and Augustus following these, as, by the Renown of warlike Actions, they became magnificent; so by domestick Mischiefs they were worthy of Shame, detestable. For as it was glorious and honourable to have acquired France, Thrace, Cilicia, fruitful and mighty Provinces; also the Armenians and Britons; great Names! yet not so much for the Use as the Amplitude of the Empire, so, at the same Time, was it vile and wretched to fight at home with our Fellow Citizens, Companions, Slaves, Prize-fighters, and the whole Senate among themselves. Therefore, I know not whether it had not been better for the Roman State to have been content with Sicily and Africk, or even to have been without these also, ruling in their own Dominion, Italy, than to encrease to such a Magnitude, as by its own Strength it might be destroyed. For what other Thing brought forth Civil Discords, but too much Prosperity? Conquered Syria first spoiled us; and then the Possessions of King Pergamus in Asia. Those States and their Riches spoiled the Manners of the Age, and ruined the Commonwealth, overwhelmed with her own Vices, as it were, in a common Fakes: For else, why should the People earnestly require of the Tribunes Fields and coarse Food, unless through Hunger, that Luxury had brought on. Hence, therefore, arose both the first and second Sedition of Gracchus, and the third of Appuleius.

Why

P R E F A C E. v

Why was the Knights (or Gentlemen) divided from the Senate, that he might rule in judicial Affairs, except out of Covetousness; that the Tributes to the Publick, and the very Judgments themselves might be turned into Gain? And hence again the Premises of the Rights of Citizens to meer Country-Fellows; and for this Cause arose the Wars among Neighbours, and Kinsfolks.

And what introduced the Servants Wars with us, unless from the Abundance of Family-Attendants, Numbers of idle Lackeys? Whence the Armies of Prize-fighters (Fencers) against their own Benefactors, except from the Prodigal Liberality for obtaining the Favour of the Populace; whilst, by giving Countenance to publick Sports, first instituted as Punishments for Enemies, they converted them into a certain Art.

Now, that we may touch the more specious Vices, Was not the Itch of Bribery for gaining Promotions stirred up by those Riches? But whence the Commotion of Marius; whence that of Scylla; or the splendid Preparation and sumptuous Expence of Feasts; were they not from the Excess, ready presently to produce nothing but Beggary and Poverty? This violently moved Cataline against his Country. Finally, Whence came that same Eagerness of Lordship and Governing, but from the too much Wealth? But yet, this armed Cæsar and Pompey as with the Fire-brands of Furies, for the utter Ruin of the State."

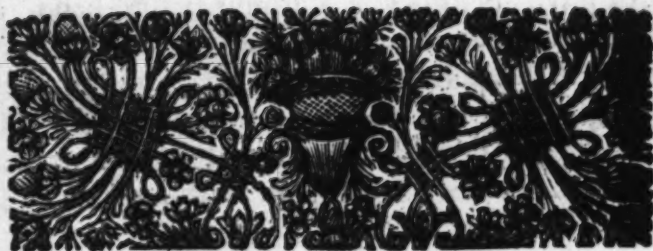
Now you see, O Britons! O Batavians! that Virtue and Sincerity were the Promotion; Redundance,

vi P R E F A C E.

dance, Luxury, and Avarice brought on the Decay, and Bribery, Corruption and Pride compleated the Overthrow of this powerful Empire: Therefore take you Warning in time, and think not yourselves more infallible than they.



T H E



THE
DUTCH Remonstrance, &c.

EVERY one, not without Reason, stands amazed, not being able to apprehend how it is possible, that, in less than *Forty Days*, the King of *France* should subdue above *forty Cities* and eminent Fortresses formerly belonging to this State.

A *Disgrace* to our Nation, and a *Blot* so great, that it is never to be washed off from the not sufficiently famous *Batavians*.

Yet, if the Reader pleases seriously to consider the following Relation, I doubt not but he will in some measure be satisfied.

My Opinion then is, that the King of *France* did not make so great a Progress purely by force of Arms, but by the Concurrence and Assistance of some Governors of this Country (O that they had never been so!) who, being bought thereto, instead of *Fathers*, became *Traitors* of our Native Country; which to demonstrate clearly we are to consider;

That

That the King of *France* did no way surprize us, but gave us sufficient warning before-hand, as well in Words to our Ambassadors, as in Deeds by his great Preparations, made beyond any Example, through his whole Dominions: As also by his erecting several unheard of Magazines, as well with in his own Realm as without; nay, on our very Frontiers at *Nuys**.

These Preparations whereof were so great, that an experienced Officer, who had borne great Commands in the *German* Wars, as also under the King of *Sweden*, *Denmark*, and other Princes, coming to Compliment the Lord of *Amerongen*, who at that Time was, on the behalf of this State, at *Cologne*, † taking an Opportunity to View the fore-mentioned Magazine, declared to me at his return, that he had never seen nor heard of the like: believing it to be sufficient to contain Provision and Ammunition enough for two, nay three hundred thousand Men.

That he could not see this State was moved thereat; and asked whether they did not intend to defend their Country? Because they made such small Preparations for its Defence, that it seemed to him, the Ashes wanted to be stirred, and the Fire to be extinguished, before the Flame broke out.

I confess, that, at that Time, I little regarded this saying, because, according to my Duty, judged favourably, and expected Nothing but Stability and Faithfulness from our Governors: But I have, by the sorrowful Event, found, that I might, not

* A strong Town of *Germany*, in the Lower Circle of the *Rhine*, near which, on the River *Erp*, it stands.

† *Cologne*, a *Hans* Town, and one of the large, Free, Imperial and chief Cities in *Germany*, which stands on the River *Rhine*, within the Lower Circle thereof.

without a good Argument, have condescended to the forementioned Officer's Opinion.

For who knows not, that the first Care of a Governor, for the Defence of his Country, ought to consist,

I. In erecting sufficient Magazines.

II. Fortifying of Towns and Castles.

III. Furnishing the same Towns and Fortresses with valiant and faithful Governors and Commanders, sufficient Garrisons, Trenches, and Ammunition for War.

IV. But especially to deprive the Enemy of as much Ammunition and Men as possible.

Let us now examine whether any of all these things were done with Vigour, and we shall, to our irreparable Loss and Disgrace, rather find the contrary to have been acted by the *wicked and strange Directions of corrupt Governors*: For notwithstanding it was well known, that at the Beginning of the King of *France's* Preparations for War, that there scarce was any *Salt-petre* in *Europe*, but what was in the Hands of the *Netherland-East-India* Company; and notwithstanding it was proffered the State by the said Company, they refused the same, and rather desir'd that it should be sent to *France*, and to serve as a Knife to cut the Throat of the *Netherlands* at once. But this was not all; for, instead of publishing Edicts to prevent the transporting of Ammunition to the Enemy, which ought to have been their chief Care, they encouraged and maintained the sending of all Necessaries for War to the Enemy. Of the Truth of which every one may be assured, since it may be heard from the Mouth of the Lord *Jucchen*, Governor of *Wesel**, yet

* A *Hans-Town*, and a strong City and Castle in the Circle of *Westphalia*, in *Germany*.

living at the *Hague* ; that his Excellency, about four or five Months ago, being advertised, in a Letter wrote to him by a loyal Subject, that four Ships laden with Powder, Shot, and other Ammunition for War, were coming up the *Rhine*, to pass by *Wesel* ; of the Merchants Names that had both sold and bought the same ; where it was laden ; what Powder-mill the Powder came from, and from whom the other Stores, &c. that the Master of the Ship had a Passport for *Colen* ; that it was to be carried to *Nuys*, into the *French Magazine* ; that, by Virtue of a certain Order, (sent to his Excellency some Years ago) if the Bishop of *Munster* * should make any Invasion, he would please to stop the said Ships. Upon this Information, going himself to the *Rhine*, he enquired whether any Persons had seen such Ships pass by, as were mentioned in his Letter of Advice ; further, when one of the Standers-by told him, that two such like Ships were passed by, and gone up higher ; that they were laden with Powder, Shot, and other Ammunition, which, instead of being unladen at *Colen*, according to the Passport, were carried and put into the *French Magazine* at *Nuys* ; and that he had this Account from one of the Masters of the Vessels that were returned from thence, very much discontented, that he had been forced to unlade contrary to his Passport.

The Governor, hereupon, sending for the said Master of the Vessel, and having discovered the Truth of these Circumstances from his own Mouth ; and that there was a third Vessel, laden with the same Sort of Goods, yet below *Wesel*,

* A large, opulent and populous City of Germany, situate on the River *Sa*, in the Circle of *Westphalia*.

and coming up the *Rhine*. After this, staying till the Evening, and not seeing the said Ship, the Governor thinking that she might pass by in the Night, sent some Musqueteers thither, strictly commanding them to enter and stay in the Vessel till it should come up to the City, and be searched by his Excellency. On the Day following, examining the said Ship, found the same to be laden as before ; when taking the Passport from the Master, he immediately caused it to be exactly copied, and, keeping the Original, sent the Copy by the Post, which went out that Day Express to the State, or Council of State, to whom he communicated, in a Letter, all that had happened, desiring speedy Orders, how he should behave in this Affair.

There being at that Time but little Powder and Shot in *Wesel*, the Governor was not a little rejoiced, that by this Opportunity the City would be well provided at a small Expence to the Country.

But, instead of being directed, as he expected, to have the said Ship unladen there, the Governor received an Order, signed by the Secretary, that he should not only free the Vessel, but also permit all Ships that had such Passports to pass unmolested on their Way, which his Excellency immediately condescended to.

Two Days after past by another Ship, that had twice as much Ammunition on board her as any one of the former, and from Time to Time several others of the same Nature steered the same Course.

Yet the Governor still solicited the Council of State, that the City of *Wesel*, being so considerable a Town, and of such great Consequence to the State, might have 6000 Men in Garrison, as well as sufficient Trenches and Ammunition ; they at last gave

Orders for making of Trenches about the said City, and furnishing the same with all Manner of Necessaries.

But, instead of putting a Garrison of 6000 Men into the same, they drew immediately thirteen Troops of Horse, and twelve Companies of Foot, all stout and able Men, out of it, and put a few Companies, consisting for the most Part of un-experienced Youths in their Stead : Of which the Governor had often complained ; yet, as it were, to secure this considerable City the more to the Enemy, they, under Pretence that Governor *Jucchen* should come and give their *High Mightinesses* an Account in Person at the *Hague*, put in another Governor ; and how honourably he hath carried himself in the Defence of that City appears by the Event, *exitus acta probat*, the Issue proves the Acts.

The like Pretence they had to turn out other Governors, as appears chiefly by Colonel *d'Ossery*, an *Irishman*, and a *Roman Catholick*, whose Villanies and traiterous Actions have been manifested formerly in his Services under other Princes ; and whose Correspondence with the Enemy, and notorious Treasons concerning the Business of *Rhinberg*,* are at large related, in certain Papers delivered, by the Captains *Vytenbogaert* and *Clark*, to his Highness the Prince of *Orange* and the Council of State ; as also, wherein you have also an Account, that the Garrisons of the City *Rhinberg*, notwithstanding it was so considerable a fortress to this State, were not sufficient to defend half the Counterscarps ; and therefore might easily, by the Treachery of *d'Ossery*, and the Falseness of

* *Rhinberg*, a small but strong City of *Germany*, situate on the River *Rhine*, within the Lower Circle thereof.

the Governor *Bassem*, be conquered by the Enemy. And indeed this *d'Offery*, following forsooth the Examples of the Honourable Lords and Overseers of this Work, in their counterfeit fatherly Care, behaved himself so honourably in the Defence of this City, that he well deserved a *triumphant Gallows* of an exalted Height, not only for his own Falseness, but because so many Loyal Officers, which undoubtedly were in Garrison there, were deluded by his base Designs and Treacheries to their utter Ruin.

And, for the better carrying on of those traitorous Courses, three Regiments more were sent to *Maestricht*, † after it was sufficiently provided; so that the Enemy, finding that Place so fortified, might pass by there, and come first to *Rhinberg* and *Wesel*.

At the same Time when the News came to an Assembly of a Province now in the Enemy's Possession, that there were three Regiments more put into *Maestricht*, it was said, that his Highness the Prince of Orange had writ, *That he did much wonder, that such an extraordinary Care was taken for that City only; when as it would be more necessary to look after other Towns, which were of as great Consequence to the States.* This I was informed by a Person whose Fortune it was to be present at that Assembly.

I also heard at that Time, that a certain Governor, being exceedingly troubled, said, *What doth all this tend to? I do not like the Management of Affairs; for we are like to lose our Country for want of Men, having 25,000 short of what is absolutely necessary.*

† A large, strong City of the Low Countries, situate on the River *Maes*, in the Bishoprick of *Leige*.

And

And what was the Reason? *Why, they the GOVERNORS made a great Show of raising Men, but they acted all Things contrary.*

For, notwithstanding the first Levies were made with great Trouble out of the Country, and we were assured, that, by the many Men that were likewise raised there by others, the Governors of those Places had taken an Occasion, strictly to forbid the same; insomuch that we knew, there was not one Place, nay, not one Foot of Land out of our own Dominions left, where we were permitted to levy any Forces: Yet, under the Pretence *for the good of the Country*, it was strictly forbid by an Edict, not to raise any Men within our Dominions, but in such Places only, where we before knew, there was not a Man to be had.

Nay, these Officers, (which for the most Part were *Roman Catholicks*) knowing the Unwillingness of Men to stay with them, were forced to raise two or three Times the Men that otherwise would have served, to the great *exhausting of the publick Treasures* and their own Estates; and yet they could not keep so many of them together, as to make up half a Company at their Place of Rendezvous. Whereupon the Captains made a Complaint to the Governors, that it was a common Practice for the Soldiers to take their Money, and afterwards to desert their Colours; and therefore desired these Things might be remedied. On which the Governors only shrug'd up their Shoulders, and said, *It was not in their Power to help it.* Whereupon the beating of Drums within the City was left off, the Discourse amongst the Officers generally being, *That Holland had Money enough, and consequently might have Men at all Times.*

The other great Levies and Treaties with the Foreign Princes of Germany, viz. *Brandenburgh, Lünenburgh,*

nenburgh, and others, were delayed to the Time they judged, and hoped, that all Things would be lost; notwithstanding they might have been sooner most effectually accomplished, the Princes themselves having proffer'd their Assistance.

The Ratification of the Treaty being also *kept close* till the last Hour, deprived our Ambassadors from making a Conclusion.

We may be informed from the Ambassadors, that were sent to *Brandenburgh*, and now residing at the *Hague*, that they did not receive the Ratification at *Hamburg*, || before the Beginning of *July*, N. S.

The same Lords Ambassadors declare to the whole World, that the States themselves may justly be blamed for the so late coming down of the Auxiliary Troops. That at first his Highness, the Duke of *Brandenburgh*, was treated withal as if they would have bought a dish of Fish of him. That afterwards his Highness, instead of being prest on, advised our Ambassador to stir up his Lords and Masters, about the furthering of Affairs, saying, *My Lord, you have Traitors in your Country; Matters are very ill managed there.* I am also assured, and it may likewise be heard from the forementioned Ambassadors, that the Treaty with the Princes of *Lunenburgh* and *Brunswick*,* was broke off only upon a Difference of 5000 Rix Dollars. But, it is manifest, they rather chuse to want the Favour of those Princes, and the 8000 Men they would have sent this State.

What do you think, said one of the same Ambassadors to me not long since) *if all the Auxiliary Troops had come down in May, would the Frenchmen have gotten into our Country with so much Ease*

|| *Hamburg*, a large, strong City, and one of the principal of *Denmark*, most commodiously situated on the River *Elbe*, in the Circle of *Lower Saxony*.

* Now belonging to the Electorate of *Hanover*.

as they have done? But what shall we say! It was so designed: Ambassadors were sent to all Princes and Potentates, when we were assured, that the Army, by the vile Proceedings of some, which shall be nameless, were all block'd up; and how our Ambassadors managed their Affairs in *England* I shall also omit to mention.

De Groot would also have made no better End of his Embassy in *France*, had he not been seconded by his Brother-in-law, that honest Patriot, *Momba*! One Man was not sufficient, therefore we must send a Second. In short, Affairs were so well ordered, that our Magazines were exhausted, and the Enemies filled. Levies were ordered to be raised in such Places as we knew it was forbidden and impossible to be performed: And where Auxiliaries were proffered, and might have been had with Ease, they were slighted, and put off till such Time as we supposed they would be needless, and too late.

Most of the Garrisons, and eminent Places, were either very badly, or not at all fortified: Some, which Shame forced them to strengthen, wanted one Thing or other to make them sufficient for Defence; those, that had Men enough, were unprovided of Trenches and Ammunition; those, which were stored with Powder, Shot, and other Necessaries, wanted Men; and those, which we knew the Enemy would not meddle with, were crowded with more Men than were needful.

What shall we judge of the erasing of the strong City and Fortrefs *de Grave*, † and the Contrivance, that the whole Garrison marching thither, according to Order, were surprized by the Enemy, (who undoubtedly had Notice thereof) and six and twenty of their colours taken from them? Nay, we may justly stand amazed to imagine how it was possible, that whole Provinces, as *Overysfel* and *Utrecht*,

† *Grave*, on the River *Maeſe*, in the Dukedom of *Brabant*.
should

should be delivered up in one Day. And whereon depends that Riddle, that the old experienced Soldiers; who were kept Prisoners in the Churches of the conquered Towns; should not be taken Notice of; though the Drums were beat daily for new Men; which plainly shew'd, that they rather chose to give twenty, nay, thirty Guelders for new and unexperienced Men, than for the old ten or twelve; for which they may be ransomed.

Who ever thought to have seen these Times in our Provinces! That we must go begging from Door to Door for the Horse-men, and then permit them to go away for Want of Money, as hath been the Case in this Conjunction in *Groeningen*, || whence I had Advice thereof from a Person, who was an Eye-witness to it. *When God intends to punish a Country; he deprives Loyal Governors of their Wisdom, and permits the Wicked to use the same to the Destruction of it.*

A certain Member of the States of *Holland*, not long before the March of the Enemy, discoursing to one of his Fraternity about the Condition the Magazines were in; said, *That the Magazine of Holland was so well furnished, that, though the Wars continued two Years, it was sufficient of itself, without any more Supplies.* But, when too late, great Complaints were made; *that there was no one Place provided*; and every one, calling for Powder, Shot, and other Ammunition for War, were directed to Magazines, which from Time to Time had been emptied before, and consequently had nothing left.

Upon this the said Lord; being ask'd by his Associate, *Where that great and well-furnished Magazine was*, of which his Excellency had boasted

|| A strong, rich, and populous City of the *Low Countrie* situate on the River *Heerenster*, in the Territory of *Goerecht*.

so much not long before ? Only shrugged up his Shoulders, and said, *That his meaning was, that it would serve to furnish Holland only ; but none of the other Provinces.*

Nay what is more, our whole army being before the *Yssel* * was, two Days before *Whitsontide*, so ill provided of Powder and Shot, that, in case of an Attack, they would not have been able to have defended themselves above twenty-four Hours.

Some of the Deputies, upon the Report, which was on *Whitsun-Monday*, that the French had taken *Burick* †, coming from *Nimeguen* ‡ to solicit the Lords Deputies that were in the Field, for Powder and Shot, received for answer, that they could not spare them any, which was also told me at the time by the Governor of *Nimeguen*.

But *Kirk Patrick*, Governor of *Hertogenbosch* || took better care for his Government, sending last Week a Lift to the Council of State of all Things which he wanted.

And, to shew that his Highness the Prince of *Orange* used more than ordinary Care and Endeavours, he sent the Governor (whilst the City committed to his Care was blockt up or besieged) to fetch Powder, Shot, and Cannon, which the said Governor obtained ; but then could not find a Vessel that either would or could undertake to carry the same thither, of which the Governor hath made great Complaints here to several Persons. But

* Either *Ysselburg*, in the Dukedom of *Guelderland*, or *Ysselstein* in the Earldom of *Holland*, and both Towns situated on the River *Yssel*, in the *Low-Countries*.

† A City of *Germany*, situated on the River *Rhine*, in the Dukedom of *Cleves*.

‡ A large, strong City of the *Low Countries*, situated on the River *Waal*, in the Dukedom of *Guelderland*.

|| Or, *Boisleduc*, a large, strong City of the *Low-Countries*, situated on the River *Demal*, in the Dukedom of *Brabant*.

whether this Governor was blinded by the Orders of his Master, that he could not see the Deficiencies before ; or whether the Overseers of our Country's welfare judged, that it was of but small Consequence to this State to preserve this Fortrefs, I shall leave the Publick to determine ; the Magistrates formerly were not of that Opinion : But, yet sure I am, *Tempora mutantur & nos mutamur in illis*, the Times are changed, and we are changed with them.

The King of *France* had no need to use any force upon the Works, which with so much Care and Labour were made along the *Yffel*, for a far easier Way was shown him to come through the River *Rhine*, and so to fall into the Heart of our Country.

In which the treacherous *Momba* was no small Instrument, who, having so well ordered that Affair beforehand in *France*, with his honest Brother *de Groot*, that, by what Means I know not, was made chief Commander of that Part of our Militia which was appointed for the Defence of that Station : When this Traitor, instead of charging his Regiment to be careful in defending their Post, and encouraging them to oppose their Enemies, gave Orders to march up within a Mile from *Nimeguen*, and so to leave that Station.

When this was told to his Highness the Prince of *Orange*, who extreamly wondered thereat, an express Order was immediately sent, that they should instantly draw down to the said Station again, and endeavour by all means possible to defend the same. But, before they could approach the Place, the Enemy was above half over the *Rhine*, so that our Forces, which were to have kept that Station, were as it were brought to Slaughter, and most of *Alva's* regiment there slain ; as a Lieutenant, un-

der the Lieutenant-Colonel of this Regiment, inform'd me, as he was coming along with twenty-eight Men, which he had pickt up from several Companies, after the Passage through the *Rhine* was opened to the Enemy :

Et hinc nobis bodierna illæ Lærimæ :—And hence these daily Lamentations from us.

Now whether that great Favourite of the Enemy's can, by means of his Correspondence, free his Brother-in-Law, *Momba*, from the Punishment due to him for the horrid Slaughter occasioned by his Means, and for betraying of our Native Country, Time will best declare. But we hope, that his Conscience will so check him for his own Villanies, that he will not think of acting any more.

One of the Lords Deputies of the Field (as I was told by an eminent Member of their Excellencies the High and Mighty States of *Holland*) being asked, *How Affairs were ordered, that such small Endeavours were used to oppose the Enemy?* He answered, That he could give no other Reason, but that they had no *secret Correspondence*, to give them any Account of the Enemy's Designs, of which they were altogether Ignorant. But this Brother, and his Accomplices, had too much Knowledge of the Enemies Designs, and were too much concerned therewith : For, as I am informed, *Momba* would endeavour to clear himself by the Letters from the forementioned Lord. And, undoubtedly, that was the Reason, that, when his Highness the Prince of *Orange* was of Opinion that the Enemy ought to be opposed sometimes in one, sometimes in another Place, to which there then presented good Opportunities : But, though he desired the Advice or Order of the Lord Deputies hereon, he never could get any thing else from them

them, but Shrugs of the Shoulders and many Expressions of Difficulties; artfully neither consenting, nor absolutely disapproving of his Highness's Proposals; but kept all things in Suspence, and tied up as it were his Highness's Hands, that he could not do any thing in the Defence of our Native Country.

Every one may justly stand amazed, to consider how it is possible that all Things should be thus strangely carried, when there were and still are so many Loyal Governors at the Helm. For my part, I can satisfy myself, when I think on the wonderful Carriage of Officers, and strange Government which hath been of late, and consider the Power and Sway which that great, and, I must confess, most wise Pensionary (I could wish to God, that his *Wisdom* had been employed for the *Good of the Country*) *John de Witt* bore, during the Time of his being Pensionary.

Hath not he, under a Pretence of *Freedom*, brought us into the *greatest Slavery* in the World? Were his Intentions from the Beginning to the End ought else? And did his vile Way of governing tend to any other End than to root out and diminish the Lustre of that ever illustrious House of *Orange* and *Nassau*? Is there any one Person that can be said to be ignorant thereof? Can there be a greater Institution of Slavery thought on in the World, than to force the whole State, as it were against their Consciences to suppress the Prince of *Orange*? nay, to oblige themselves thereto by Oath. Whose Predecessors of blessed Memory, may, next to God only, be said to have brought us to this our *Freedom*, with great Effusion of Blood and vast Expence of Money.

We become Slaves when we are deprived of our Liberty; but Slaves of Slaves, - nay Slaves of Sin,
when

when we are prevented from doing of Good, and forced by an Oath to do Evil. No Governors were admitted to the Regency but with taking this Oath ; and so, in the beginning of their Office, were forced to make themselves Guilty of so abominable, and, before God and the World, *horrid Sin of Ingratitude* ; a Sin which not only carries so many unheard of Oaths along with it, but is also the Occasion of so great Effusion of Blood in our Native Country : A Sin which can and may be said to have given the Almighty God sufficient Reason utterly to deprive us again of our *so dear bought Freedom*, and bring us to *greater Slavery* than ever we were in before.

What Man, how prudent soever he be, can apprehend how it is possible, that *one Man* should so much Infect and Poison a whole State, wherein there are so many wise, honourable, and loyal Regents and Lords, *as to oblige themselves and their Successors, as much as in them lay, by an Oath, to such a ruinous and ever trying Sin of Ingratitude* ? And yet it was done ; for, not above 8 or 10 Days before the *strange Revolution*, the Pensionary of *Harlem* was forced at the Court, to swear to the forementioned perpetual Edict ; and renewed and increased the crying and *Blood-Guilty Sin* of our Country.

I tremble when I remember, that, some Years ago, I accidentally light on a Book, wherein, instead of mentioning the Virtues of the Praise-Worthy, and *never sufficiently famous* Princes of *Orange*, stood, written with an *accursed and Devillish Pen*, that there were *no Virtues* of the Princes to boast of, but *their Vices*, as Whoring, Adultery, Drunkenness, and the like, were at large described and attributed to every Prince ? Who doth not stand amazed at the hearing thereof ; and the more when they know, that this was not only sold publickly,
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but was also licens'd and printed with Authority from the State? The Counsellor-Pensionary had sufficiently examined the same and supplied all the Defects; and esteem'd the Writer hereof as a Loyal Subject, calling him, *The Defender of the Country's Freedom*. But if any thing in that Nature had been done to the Prejudice of that long *John*, or ought had been writ of any of his Relations, would not the Writer thereof have been persecuted with Fire and Sword, and the printed Paper or Book immediately taken and burnt? What hath not this grand Designer, with the help of his Accomplices and *hired Slaves*, which he rewarded by giving them *several Offices*, done to execute his treacherous and wicked Designs? But see farther.

No sooner were the Keys of our Native Country (always so highly esteem'd and preserv'd with great Care and Circumspection) villainously given into the Hands of the Enemy, but we began to help him to open the Gates also. Who could ever Dream of such Actions! No Books afford the like Example! *Peter de Groot*, that perjured and dishonourable Wretch, is to make Peace! To this purpose he had a blank Commission from the whole State, (without any Instructions by which to govern himself) to treat with the Enemy; and, to speak plain, to make an absolute Agreement for our *dear bought Freedom, Religion, and Native Country*.

It would sooner have seem'd to me, and all the World, a Fable, than a Truth, had it not appeared plainly out of the printed Letter sent from the Lords the States of *Zealand*, who manifested their Fidelity and great fatherly Care; and also declar'd, That not without great Reason they could not consent to such an unlimited power as had been given to *de Groot*: That it was an unheard of Thing in the Government of this Country, (*ipsissima verba epistolæ*,

epistole, the very Words of the Epistle) to give full Power to a deputed Person, to treat with a Potentate, and much less with a publick Enemy. Besides, they plainly declared, that they (*mark well*) justly suspected this contrary Way of acting; and that it gave them an Apprehension, that the Enemy would thereby be encouraged to propose such Conditions to such Deputy, *which never can nor must be treated of*, viz. their Religion, Freedom, and the lawful Government of these Countries. And how the forementioned three Points would have been maintain'd by such a Deputy, who is a notorious Atheist, a Slave to the Enemy, *bought to the Destruction of our whole Government*, every one may easily judge.

Just at the Time when this Commission was finished, and *de Groot* yet at the *Hague*, ready on his Departure, I had the Honour to speak with one of my very good Friends, and a Member of the High and Mighty States of *Holland*, who, on my Question of *What News?* changing his Countenance, (as if Things did not go according to his Mind) was pleased to say, *We shall, in short, have a PEACE, but I fear a SORROWFUL ONE.* *De Groot* is going to the King of *France*, and hath *plein pouvoir*, full Power. When, in an Amaze, I asked, *How will it be then?* His Excellency replied, *There is a blank Chart to be laid before the King, and his Majesty is to write.* On which I answered, *Then de Groot is a Great Prophet; for this Morning a certain Lord informed (and indeed it is true) that the forementioned de Groot, about three Months before, discoursing with him, the said Lord said, That our native Country was threatened with a great and terrible War; and de Groot made answer, Pish! pish! I do not see any such great Difficulty therein: I do believe that*

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the King of France will at first take some of our Cities, which we cannot hinder him from; but (mark well) I, I de Groot, (striking his Hand on his Breast) will make Peace with the King of France in the Field about three Months hence. And the Time wherein he received his aforementioned Commission, was about so long after.

The Lord, hereupon discoursing liberally with me, said, That he believed the same, because *de Groot* was a Person who was exceedingly self-opinionated; and that not long ago, (not naming the Time, which I guess at by his Words) he had told his Excellency himself, *That he should certainly conclude a Peace; adding moreover, that though we should lose, and add a Pearl to his Crown by this Peace, yet, if we examined the Prerogatives and Benefits which Holland would reap from it, we should not account our Loss so great.*

Though this Lord would not favour me with an Explanation of this *Prerogative*, yet, I suppose, that his chiefest Aim was, *That Holland should then be separated from the other United Provinces, and freed as it were from that heavy Burden, as they are pleased to call it.*

And besides, *That then they would be freed from all Fears, that his Highness the Prince of Orange at any Time should be made Stadtholder of that Province.*

One would think it strange how it is possible, that any Men should be transported to such imaginations: But,

————— *Quid non mortalia pectora cogis*
Auri sacri fames. —————

O detestable Desire of Gold, what hast thou not put into Mens Minds?

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He was always more for the *French*, than for the *Prince's* Interest.

This was the Reason why the Council-Pensio-nary, in the Time of the War with *Munster*, durst propose in a full Assembly, to make the Duke of *Turenne* Captain-General over our Militia.

Ambitious is our Enemy ; and full of Ambition are also those Subjects, rather desiring to be governed by a *King* than a *Prince*. But see how miraculous is the Providence of the Almighty !

Just when our State was in the greatest Danger, and tottering ready to fall down, the Appearance of our Deliverance was nearest at hand ; for it pleased God, just at that Time, to throw down that *Great* and subtil Designer, (which had thus long usurped more Authority than ever was aimed at by any of our Princes) and immediately caused the Prince of *Orange* unanimously, by all the Inhabitants of those Countries, to be proclaimed *Stadtholder* of *Holland*, *Zealand*, and *West-Friesland*, and to restore to him all those Dignities which his Predecessors of *Glorious Memory* ever enjoy'd.

That great God grant also, that, as by means of his Predecessors, with the Expence of their Estates and Effusion of Blood, the Body of the *United Provinces* was framed, and, as long as they reigned, kept in a good Order, the disjoined Members may, by his Valour and Conduct, (wherein we beseech God to assist him, and to free him from evil Counsel) be united again.

I do certainly believe, that many of our Inhabitants, and also all good Patriots, will judge it convenient to find out all those Governors, which are guilty of betraying our native Country, and, by some severe Punishment inflicted on them and their Instruments, as *Momba*, *d'Ossery*, and other
Gouvernoirs,

Governors, Commanders, Captains, and other Officers, make them Examples to others.

But, as to the latter Part, I do not altogether approve of their Opinion, nevertheless, with Submission to better Judges, my Sentiment only is, that it would be convenient to make a strict Enquiry into the *Camp-proceedings* of the Governors, and such as bore the chiefest Commands, and had the Charge of defending Cities and Fortresses, as *Momba, Van Zanten, Bassem, d'Ossery*, and the like; as also of those Persons, whether Officers, or others, that have been assisting to the Governors in executing their *Treacheries*, and had daily *Correspondence with the Enemy*. And by punishing all such Persons severely, according to their Demerits, make them Examples to others.

But there ought not so particular a Regard to be taken of other Captains and meaner Officers, who cannot be said to have had the least Knowledge of their unfaithful Governors Designs; and would have undoubtedly behaved themselves most loyal, had they been encouraged thereto by their Governors, and not been deluded to act those Things which they were made believe would be for the Benefit of the Country, but proved prejudicial: For which, if any should be punished, most of all the Captains and other Officers, in what Garison soever, would be liable thereto. And therefore those Captains who might be punished more than others, would be unjustly dealt withal; or the State constrained to an Execution of so many honest People, which heretofore have behaved themselves like loyal Soldiers, for the Defence of their Country; and now only brought to suffering by the treacherous, though seeming fair Pretences and Delusions of their base Governors.

We have also oftentimes seen that military Persons, and other inferior Officers, being accused of some abuses committed, and freed from their Punishments out of a particular Favour, have taken an Occasion in all future Opportunities to use more than ordinary Endeavours for the Good and Benefit of the State: Of which there are many Examples, whereof one is manifested at this Time in Captain *Buket*.

I should also judge, that some Means might be found out, who amongst the Regents is guilty of this High-Treason, and consequently deserving of Punishment. Especially if we consider those Maxims that are used, and also necessary in our Government, that is, That only a few are to be admitted into the Council for private Concerns, either one out of every Province, or else more or less according as the Business requires. Besides which Persons, none may have the least Knowledge of Things of greatest Consequence, especially in Times of War, when the Welfare of the State doth not a little depend, that the Regents Designs against the Enemy may be kept secret, and not divulged and brought to the Ears of the Enemy. Which private Consultations were well observed by the Council-Pensionary, who permitted his Creatures to be of the Privy-Council, and excluded several good Patriots, who his Excellency judged would oppose him in the carrying on of his wicked Designs: And those which he could not exclude he so wrought upon, that he *made them to vote* such Things as his Wisdom thought fit.

And therefore those loyal Regents who sat at the Helm, might now easily, being under the Conduct of his Highness the Prince of *Orange*, find out with what Villany their wicked Brother-Counsellors

Counsellors, have order'd all Things to the Ruin of our Country, and the furthering of the Enemies Designs. Whether in their *ill Care for the Fortresses ; badly storing the Magazines ; granting of unlawful Pasports for the transporting Ammunition to the Enemy ; bad Management of, and preventing the raising of Levies ; detaining of our Ambassadors, Ratifications of the Treaties, and the ill Performance of them ; the strange Conduct of their appointed Governors, Commanders, and others ; and the like* base carrying on of Affairs. For if once the Thread be found, the Bottom will soon be unwound.

Yet, notwithstanding all which, my Judgment is, that the *publick Inquisitions* and the Punishments ought to be referr'd, since undoubtedly it will be of a dangerous Consequence ; partly because that by the manifold Difficulties, which, in all Appearance, would accrue, the loyal Regents, Fathers of our native Country, would be prevented from using other Means, which in this Conjunction of Time are more necessary to oppose the Enemy ; and partly, that when the Treason is found out, the Punishments must necessarily follow.

Which Opinion of mine I leave to every one's serious Consideration ; and how it is possible, that the executing of the Punishments (which undoubtedly would be inflicted on several of the supreamest Governors, which have so long managed the Helm of our Government) could be effected without Fear of great Inconvenience to this State, which, in this Conjunction, must, by all means possible, be prevented.

Those that please to read the History of *Barneveldt* will find, that it is not to be done without great Difficulties, which necessarily ought to be diverted and referr'd till some other and more convenient

convenient Time, when either all Things may be buried in Oblivion, or else the *Traitors condemned to lose their Heads*, for betraying our native Country, as the Lords Magistrates shall think fit.

And therefore, is it not abominable that *private Persons dare daily presume to do Justice*; nay, to inflict sufficient Punishments on all and every one *whom they do but in the least suspect* to have been concerned in the *ill management of Affairs*; which doth no way beseem them? But we will hope, that the Prudence of the Lord Stadtholder will prevent the same for the Future.

I am very sensible, that many Patriots, by this Delay of punishing the Traitors, fear, that if the Treacheries go unpunish'd, the State will be left in a great Labyrinth, and in Danger of being *wholly delivered up into the Enemy's Hands*; because, when those wicked Traitors, being accused of their Villainies, and seeing, as it were, their Punishments before their Eyes, will use all Means possible to make more and more Confusion in the *Finances*, of which there is yet a great Complaint, and increase all other Disorders, whereby the Enemy may get Footing also in the remaining Provinces, in hopes that by that Means they may escape their deserved Punishment: { Which Fears of the loyal Patriots are not without some Reason, since an eminent Person was yesterday pleased to tell me, That if in case the Confusion in the *Finances*, and the *bad Payment of Moneys*, which, by the wicked Directions of the *Account-Governors*, hath been so long in Practice, be not suddenly remedied, it would prove very *prejudicial to the State*. On which I answered his Excellency, wherewith also, according to my Judgment, all Patriots may be satisfied, That his Highness was not made a
Stadtholder.

Stadtholder to catch Flies, and though he did not as yet proceed on an *Inquisition and sudden Punishment* of the Traitors, yet we might well think that his Highness, the Prince of *Orange*, would, with the Help of many loyal Regents, endeavour, by all means possible, to gain an exact Knowledge of that villainous governing, which hath reduced our State to so deplorable and sad Condition; and that also he will take such Care that all those *Account-Governors* shall be bereaved of all publick Employments; but especially for ever excluded out of the Privy-Council; so to prevent all future Miscarriages of Affairs, and settle all Things in such Order as shall be most beneficial to the State.

Let us now think on some Means whereby our native Country may be brought to enjoy its former Freedom, and to know the *Light of the Gospel*, which, in many of the torn off Members of this State is already sufficiently extinguished. We have heretofore, by establishing that *curfed Edict*, not only refused to acknowledge our real Governor and Chief Magistrate of our Country, to which Nature, and the formerly received Benefits obliged, and sufficiently might have forced us to, but also despised and excluded Him with many Oaths. *Oh horrid Action.*

Do we not see and read, that when we despise and disown our *just and loyal Magistrates*, God sends *wicked and tyrannical Regents* in their Places? *I gave thee a King in mine Anger, and took him away in my Wrath, Hof. xiii. 11.*

Did there ever any greater Destruction happen among any People, than among those which had shewn themselves ungrateful to their Princes, and deposed those to whom they owed their Preservation?

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If any where, then, it may well be said to be here, *That God, being justly incensed, bath in his Wrath given a great Part of our NETHERLANDS to a King.*

God grant, that, as the Sin of *Ungratefulness*, practised by our Magistrates, which hath chiefly occasioned a Curse upon our Country, is remov'd by a miraculous Providence, viz. our Magistrates suddenly revoking that *wicked and perpetual E-dict*; shewing a sincere Sorrow of that base Act, to which they were deluded by the wicked Directions of the said *Account-Governors*; he will also be pleased to remove all other troubles from us! And likewise, that our Subjects may repent of those horrid and crying Sins, of which they are guilty, and thereby have incurred God's just Displeasure.

F I N I S.



